



## L L U Local Leadership United

Harm Reduction & Overdose Prevention



**BC** Centre for Disease Control



# HARM REDUCTION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: LINKING MANDATES & RESOURCES

UBCM AGM, September 12th, 2022

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## WHY WE ARE HERE

## Framing the Overdose Crisis in BC

- 84% of illicit drug toxicity deaths occur inside
- 56% in **private residences**; 27% in other residences (ie. supportive housing, single room occupancy dwellings)
- Primarily people who are housed & employed impacted

(BC Coroners Service, June 2022)

## Principles of Harm Reduction

- Pragmatism
- Human rights
- Focus on reducing harms

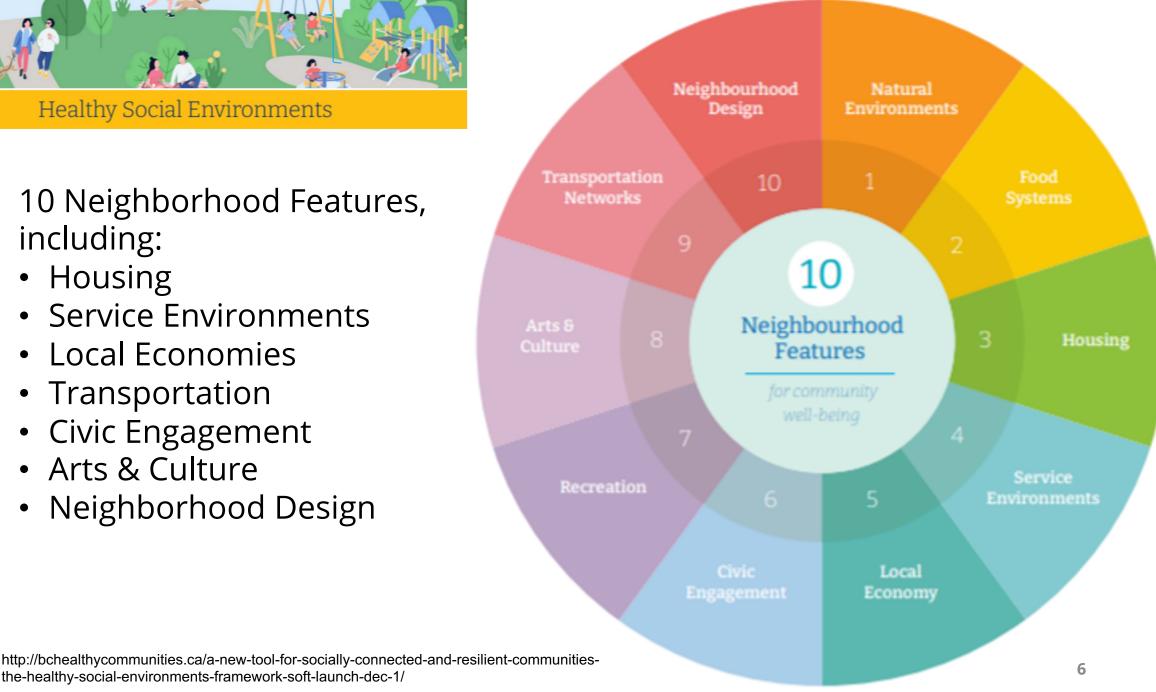
- Quality of life for individual and community well being
- Diverse options
- Meet people where they are at
- Nothing about us without us



10 Neighborhood Features, including:

- Housing
- Service Environments
- Local Economies
- Transportation
- Civic Engagement
- Arts & Culture
- Neighborhood Design

the-healthy-social-environments-framework-soft-launch-dec-1/



### Strengthening Community Wellness by Applying Harm Reduction:

#### Housing

 Better homelessness initiatives & shelters

#### **Service Environments**

- Access to SafeSupply & other services
- Bylaw training

#### **Civic Engagement**

- Anti-Stigma
   Campaigns (ie. Tailgate toolkit)
- Community tables

#### **Local Economies**

- Low-barrier employment – PEOPLE Program
- Addressing petty crime
- Grant opportunities

## Municipal Mandates

#### Local Mandates & Priorities

Vibrant downtown/ Local economy

- Official Community Plans
- Local strategic plans (ie. homelessness strategies)
- Council strategic priorities
- Community concerns
- Municipal Mandate
   Letter

Improved community cohesion

**Addressing homelessness** 

**Lasting & Meaningful Reconciliation** 

**Greater safety for families** 

Stability for individuals/ communities

**Crime prevention** 

#### **Harm Reduction**

- Pragmatic & evidence based
- Critical component of national/provincial/local overdose response
- Meeting people where they are at
- Diverse solutions, for diverse needs
- Nothing about us without us

#### **Local Resources Across the Province**

 Regional Harm Reduction Coordinators Community Based Organizations

 Healthy Communities Teams  People with Lived & Living Experience of Substance Use

 Mental Health & Substance Use Teams  Municipal Staff (ie. Social Planning)

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